



## Commonwealth of Kentucky Energy and Environment Cabinet

Steven L. Beshear, Governor

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Public comment sought on report about North Elkhorn stream impairments** *Comment period ends July 22*

**FRANKFORT, Ky.** (June 24, 2013) – The Energy and Environment Cabinet is seeking public comment until July 22 on a draft report addressing stream impairments in three stream segments within the North Elkhorn Creek watershed located in located in the Kentucky River Basin in Fayette County.

The Clean Water Act requires each state to periodically identify specific waters where designated uses are not being met and water quality impairments exist. The state is also required to prioritize the list of impaired waters, calculate a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) of pollutants for those waters and devise plans to improve the water quality.

“Total Maximum Daily Load” is a term used to describe the amount of pollution a stream can receive and still meet water quality standards. Water quality standards are regulations based on federal or state law that set numeric or narrative limits on pollutants. TMDLs are required for water bodies that are determined to be impaired.

The report, “Total Maximum Daily Load for E. coli, 3 stream segments within the North Elkhorn Creek Watershed,” prepared by the Kentucky Division of Water (DOW), addresses bacteria impairments in the North Elkhorn Creek watershed at levels that no longer support the swimming designated use. The report includes data and procedures used to calculate the TMDLs for the stream segments.

Revisions to the report may be made following the public comment period and before it is sent to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for approval.

The report may be viewed on the DOW website at <http://water.ky.gov/Pages/PublicNotices.aspx>. Comments should be sent in writing to Scarlett Stapleton, Division of Water, 200 Fair Oaks Lane, Fourth Floor, Frankfort, KY 40601 or by email to [Scarlett.Stapleton@ky.gov](mailto:Scarlett.Stapleton@ky.gov).

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